

**From:** [Thomas Steeger](#)  
**To:** [Meredith Laws](#)  
**Cc:** [Thomas Moriarty](#)  
**Subject:** Re: A couple things -  
**Date:** 11/15/2012 09:00 AM

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Chris Mullin (Penn State) has been looking at the effects of inerts on bees and he has published at least one article. When I initially heard about his research proposal, I responded that it could be very difficult for him to learn which inerts [and in what ratio] are included in formulations. Also, there is the issue that once applied the constituents of a formulation dissipate and considerably different rates. While the research has raised some interesting questions, it is difficult to understand how to put that information into context-- a problem that has consistently arisen with research out of Penn State. It may be worth while to pay Penn State another personal visit.

On the dust-off issue, we are aware of the work by Purdue and coming out of Italy (Tapparo et al. 2012). I believe we are trying to understand/address those issues through BMPs though.

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▼ Meredith Laws---11/15/2012 08:52:54 AM---Tom & Tom: Jenn Urbanski from my branch just returned from the Entomological Society Annual Meeting.

From: Meredith Laws/DC/USEPA/US  
To: Thomas Steeger/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Thomas Moriarty/DC/USEPA/US@EPA  
Date: 11/15/2012 08:52 AM  
Subject: A couple things -

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Tom & Tom:

Jenn Urbanski from my branch just returned from the Entomological Society Annual Meeting. A couple of items from her are below. The first and second items are about bees. I had not heard about possible effects from inert ingredients, have you heard that? They probably didn't identify what inerts at the meeting, since that's CBI, but it would be interesting to know what they are. I'm going to get more information from her.

Also - we are getting close on the sulfoxaflor registration, we'll be putting the proposed decision out for public comment soon. I've had some conferences with Dow to try to get them to put some meaningful bee protective language and mitigation on the label. I'm really trying to get away from the standard language (ie. "XXX is highly toxic to bees. Do not apply if bees are actively visiting the treatment area"). Dow has tried to come up with something that is more useful and

informative. It needs some work, and I will certainly run it past Keith to make sure it is accurate - my question for you guys is, do you want to see it?

Meredith

----- Forwarded by Meredith Laws/DC/USEPA/US on 11/15/2012 08:44 AM -----

From: Jennifer Urbanski/DC/USEPA/US  
To: Meredith Laws/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Lois Rossi/DC/USEPA/US@EPA  
Date: 11/15/2012 07:53 AM  
Subject: ESA conference

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Hi Lois and Meredith, thanks for sending me, so many great talks! Below are a few of the highlights, very much pared down of course.

--There is no one active ingredient that can be linked to bee decline. However, some inerts found in multiple products appear to have a detrimental effect on bee health and learning.

--One group found pesticide deposition 100 meters from the path of a seed planter, due to the planter exhaust and therefore the seed treatments moving through the air. The deposition may go out even farther, as 100 meters was the farthest they looked. They're doing another study to figure out exactly how far the pesticides will be deposited through seed planter exhaust in the hopes of mapping this on top of maps of apiaries to determine areas of greatest risk to bees.

--There were a number of talks showing that resistant bed bug populations (essentially most field populations) are resistant to combo products as well. In addition, one group showed that there is also resistance to the neonics, namely acetamiprid and imidacloprid.

--An economist gave an interesting talk regarding what people were willing to pay for a hotel room to not have bed bugs. Apparently one of the main drivers behind what people will pay for a room is free wifi, but a hotel having no reported bed bug infestations was a hotter commodity than the wifi. People were willing to pay substantially more for a hotel that had zero instances of bed bug infestations compared to a hotel that had just one reported instance.

--Dini Miller is about to launch a large survey that will look at who is affected by bed bugs and how much bed bugs are actually costing people and businesses. She also brought up the propoxur EUP again :)

I went to some nerdy stats presentations as well, among other things, but I'll spare you the details!

Best,  
Jenn